being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**Export of Spices**

1033. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the target of export of spices during the year 1989-90 could not be achieved;

(b) if so, the quantum of spices exported during the year 1989-90 and foreign exchange earned thereby;

(c) the reasons for not achieving the target of spices; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to boost the export of spices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN): (a) Export of spices has exceeded targets quantity-wise although there was a shortfall during 1989-90.

(b) Provisional estimates of export of spices during 1989-90 is 99,886 M.T. valued at Rs. 27436 lakhs.

(c) There was lesser unit value realisation and lesser export of pepper due to easy supply position in the international market.

(d) Export promotion measures being undertaken include publicity campaign, participation in trade fairs, organisaton of buyer seller meets etc. quality improvement programmes in addition to various incentives like CCS and import replenishment licences etc.

**Raids on residential and business premises of Suri brothers**

1034. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officials of Enforcement Directorate, Income tax and Revenue Intelligence raided the residential and business premises of Suri brothers in Delhi on 3rd May, 1990;

(b) if so, what are the details of the incriminating documents seized during the raids; and

(c) what action Government propose to take against the Suri brothers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The Searches were conducted by D. R. I. and Enforcement Directorate on 2-5-90. The Officers of Income Tax Department were also associated. Certain incriminating documents from FERA, Customs and Income Tax angle have been seized.

(c) On completion of investigations by the revenue agencies, action in accordance with relevant Laws will be taken.

**Permission to Government of Maharashtra for export of cotton**

1035. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra Government has sought permission from the Central Government to export about 3 lakh bales of cotton; and

(b) if so, whether Government have given permission and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Government of Maharashtra have requested for additional quota for export of 3 lakh bales of cotton during the 1989-90 season.

(b) The Government have diverted a further export quota of 50,000 bales to the State Federation. Export quotas are released keeping in view the

exportable surplus and prices.. Maharashtra Federation has already been allocated total quota of 3.30 lakh bales, which is more than the State's proportionate share on the basis of production.

**Measure to Stop use of hank yarn by powerlooms**

1036. SHRI KOTAIAH PRAGADA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what measures have been taken to stop the use of hank yarn by prowerlooms;

(b) what is the percentage of cotton yarn out of the total marketable or delivered yarn output, produced as hanks;

(c) what is the approximate quantity of hank yarn used by powerlooms; and

(d) what is the approximate quantity of hank yarn used by other consumers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) There is no legal bar on use of hank yarn by powerlooms.

(b) About 85 per cent of the deliveries of hank yarn comprise off cotton hanks.

(c) and (d) No information on quantity of hank yarn used by powerloom and other consumers is available.

**Proposal to project textile industry from onslaughts of mechanisation**

1037. SHRI KOTAIAH PRAGADA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to prevent powerlooms from producing cloth with cotton yarns and pure silk to protect handlooms from the onslaughts of the mechanised sector of the textile industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Government is committed to protecting the handloom sector from the unequal competition of the powerloom sector and the principal instrument of such protection is the "Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production), Act, 1985", under which 22 items are reserved for exclusive production in the handloom sector. These items include some products made from cotton yarn and pure silk, which face competition from powerlooms. There is, however, no proposal to make fibre-wise reservation for exclusive protection on handlooms.

**Measures to Project handloom products**

1038. SHRI KOTAIAH PRAGADA: Will the Minister of TAXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what measures are being taken to ensure that the products produced by handlooms are not produced by powerlooms; and

(b) what steps have been taken to get vacated the court orders permitting the powrelooms to produce all the varieties of cloth that have been reserved for handlooms?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) 22 items are reserved for exclusive production by handlooms under "Handloom (Reservation of Articles for Production), Act, 1985", Central Government has set up a Chief Enforcement Office at Delhi with regional offices at Coimbatore and Pune. Further, financial assistance is given to State Governments for setting up enforcement offices in